



1-20-00

GP 1644

PATENT

DOCKET NO.: 615-25A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : HELM ET AL.
SERIAL NO. : 09/133,766
FILED : AUGUST 12, 1998
TITLE : ALLERGEN/INFLAMMATORY TESTING AND DIAGNOSIS
EXAMINER : R. SCHWADRON
GROUP ART
UNIT NO. : 1644

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend
the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite Claim 17 as follows:

--17. (Twice-Amended) A method for determining the
potential irritancy or allergenicity of a pre-selected substance
comprising:

a. exposing a cell line which is a secretor
variant [cell-line] of mast cell or basophil lineage and which is
transfected with a moiety capable of binding human IgE, to said

RECEIVED
00 JAN 27 PM 2:35
TECH. CENTER

PRE AMENDT/B
AT
PH 8
3-6-00

B